

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-8 and 10 are pending in the application and have been amended; reexamination and reconsideration are hereby requested.

Claims 1 and 10 were rejected as anticipated by Dallas Semiconductor DS1075 data sheet.

Applicants reply that claims 1 and 10 have been amended to require the transition from the clock being divided back to an undivided clock be synchronized with the divided clock; this corresponds to the millisecond interrupt of allowed claim 5 because the divided clock provides the millisecond interrupts as described in application paragraph [0046] and Fig.2 with states 204 and 208. The DS1075 apparently cannot change on-the-fly as noted at the top of page 4 of the data sheet.

Dependent claims 2-4 were rejected as unpatentable over DS1075 data sheet. Applicants rely upon the patentability of parent claim 1.

Claims 1-4 and 10 were rejected as unpatentable over White.

Applicants again reply that amended independent claims 1 and 10 to require the transition from the clock being divided back to an undivided clock be synchronized with the divided clock. White is similar to DS1075 data sheet in that on-the-fly changes of frequency seem unavailable. Consequently, the amended claims are patentable over the references.

Claims 3, 7, and 9 were rejected as indefinite. The amendments to the claims overcome these rejections.

Respectfully submitted,

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